



Beria, 6 Others Are Executed by Russians

By RICHARD KASCHKE
MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet Union closed the books today on Lavrenty P. Beria, the government's chief of secret police (MVD) and six of his henchmen were shot by a firing squad yesterday after a secret five-day trial. The Soviet Supreme Court found them guilty of high treason.
Beria, 54, held the Soviet Union's highest honors and had been elevated to the No. 2 Kremlin post of first deputy premier and interior minister after Joseph Stalin died nine months ago. Three months later, in June, Premier Georgi Malenkov's government arrested him and denounced him as a traitor to the state and communism.
The execution announcement today was the first disclosure that Beria's trial had been going on since Friday behind locked doors.
The hearing opened two days after the Soviet press published indictments against Beria and announced the names of the six other defendants. The papers at the time started blasting the seven as the vilest kind of traitors and reported that mass meetings throughout the country were unanimously calling for their deaths.
In past cases of executed traitors, the bodies have been cremated and disposed of without further announcement.
The eight-man tribunal, under Marshal Ivan S. Konev, a World War II hero, passed sentence after the guilt of all the accused was completely proved in court by the evidence and also by oral and written confessions, the government newspaper Izvestia said.
The official announcement said Beria and those who had conspired with him tried "to put the Ministry of Internal Affairs above the party and the government for the purpose of seizing power" and aimed "for restoration of capitalism."
As early as 1919 Beria "occupied the post of secret agent" in Azerbaijan, acting with groups "under the control of British intelligence organs," the announcement said. It added:
"In the following years up to his arrest I. P. Beria continued and extended his secret connections with foreign intelligence services."
Shot along with Beria were Valeriy Merkulov, minister of state control; V. G. Dekanazov, secret police chief in Stalin's and Beria's home state of Georgia; D. Z. Kobaev, ex-deputy minister of internal affairs; S. A. Goblidze, internal affairs chief in the Soviet Far East; P. Meshik, internal affairs minister in the Ukraine, and L. E. Vlodzimirsky, internal affairs investigations chief.

Holiday Spirit Comes to White House

By DOUGLAS B. CORNELL
WASHINGTON (AP) — It's Christmas Eve at the White House — a time to speak of peace on earth, light the nation's Christmas tree and open gaily wrapped gifts in the quiet of the evening.
President and Mrs. Eisenhower also will hold the traditional reception for the White House staff in the midst of their first Yuletide whirl in the executive mansion.
Then tomorrow they fly to Georgia to spend Christmas with their son, John, their daughter-in-law, and three young grandchildren.
Business was pretty much thrust aside for today. The calendar listed two delegations to invite the President to forthcoming dinners and a conference with a government malaria expert on the way to Nepal.
At 5:00 p. m. (EST) the President speaks to the nation and the world of his hopes for peace and good will among men. His words will go out over three television and radio networks — NBC, CBS and ABC and in 34 languages over the Voice of America.
As in the past the Star will suspend publication Christmas Day, one of three holidays observed each year. Regular publication will be resumed Saturday, December 26.

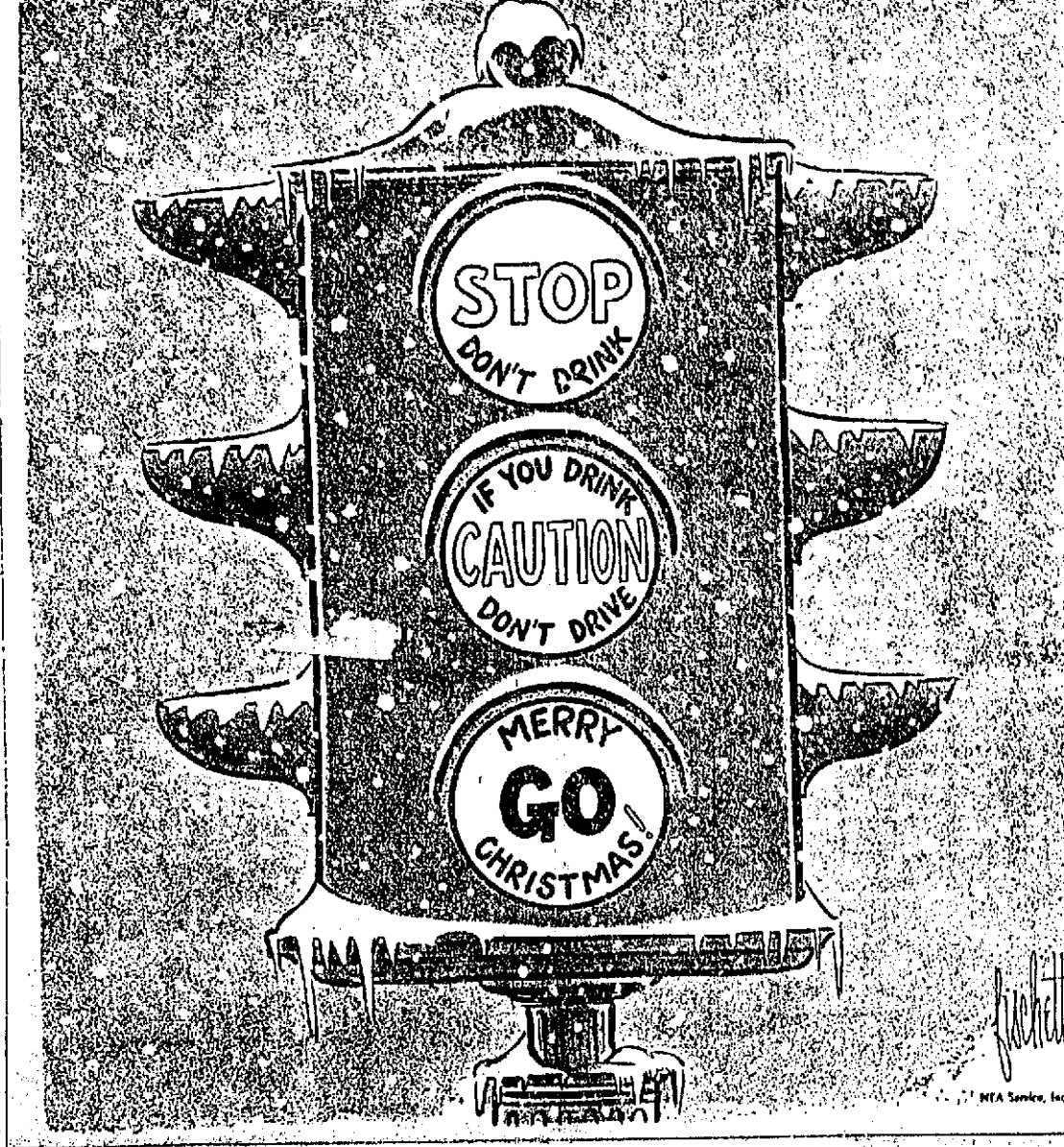
Presbyterian Student Service 5 p. m. Sunday

At the five o'clock service of the Presbyterian Church Sunday afternoon, Christian Student Night will be observed, with the entire service presented by young people who are at home from college for the holiday season.
Tony Boyett will preside and he and Charlotte Tarpley, Carroll Hyatt and Tom Ed Hays will make brief talks on "The Religious Life on My Campus." Nancy Hays will lead in prayer, Roberta Howard will sing a solo, and Henry Life will usher, assisted by Jimmy Branch and David McKenzie. Every one is cordially invited to attend.

'Twas Only the Night Before Christmas

By JAMES MARLOW
'Twas the night before Christmas and all through this town, Whose President Ike and his wife settled down.
Such quiet existed, such calm such regard,
One man for another, it seemed rather hard.
To reflect that this spirit of Christmas good cheer
Would evaporate fast and be gone by next year.
For the silence, of course, there is only one reason:
The Congress is home for the holiday season.
It would please Mister Ike just to keep it like this
And would make of his term a perpetual bliss.
He probably hoped, being pleasant himself,
He could keep all unpleasantness up on a shelf.
For his four years in office, and strangely enough
The treatment he's had hasn't been very rough.
He employed a technique which was quite inexpensive:
Be nice, and your critics are on the defensive.
He never called names, used no sticks and no stones.
He got answers in kind: in the friendly tones.
To be sure, he was singled by occasional smarties
And had disagreements with me of both parties.
It was Senator Joe, on our foreign affairs,
Who got tangled up deep in Ike's vanishing hairs.
The President answered McCarthy. In fact,
He rebuked him but left him his hide all intact.
And yet, all in all, this year was a breeze.
For President Ike when set up beside these
Big pig problems aneared in the year that he faces:
An election campaign — the congressional races.
Reluctant, like dragons, to waste any heat,
The Democrats this year just shuffled their feet
Till election year came. It's now one week away,
The signal for Demos to start making hay.
Next year won't be pretty, as politics goes,
For too many feet have stomped too many toes.
When Herbert Brownell charged that Soviet spies
Were promoted by Truman, though he'd been put wise,
And other Republicans claimed that the Reds
Had been crawling around under Democrats' beds,
The furious Democrats rallied, and stood
Each one ready to pay back Ike's party, but good.
Yet Ike's in a spot. Without Democrats' aid
His program next year may be shoved in the shade.
The reason is simple: Republicans still
Lack enough votes to steamroller a bill.
And Ike, in unveiling his program may find,
In addition, of course, there is Senator Joe.
Who'll be prominent somewhere, somehow, in the show.
For he's told Ike already he'll let loose again.
If Allied trade with China continues, And then
There's always the problem of handling the Kremlin
Whose inhabitants act, not like man but like gremlin.
But New Year's is still a full eight days ahead
And maybe tonight when Ike climbs into bed
He'll remember that this year has still time to run
And the one we've been talking about hasn't begun.

Obey These Rules---Give Death a Holiday, Too



Prisoner in Local Jail Given Yule Present by Judge

In a brief session of court this morning Judge James H. Pilkinton ordered the release of the only prisoner in the Hempstead County Jail under commitment from the Chancery Court.
The prisoner, a Negro man who had been committed earlier in the month, was in the jail for failure to obey a court order with reference to the support of his children.
"I'm letting you go because it's Christmas," the judge told the defendant. "But, if you come back in here again in this same matter, don't be surprised if you are still in jail on the 4th of July — maybe until next Christmas."
The prisoner departed thanking everybody in sight and allowing that he wouldn't be back except to report to the court, which the judge had ordered him to do.

Perhaps the Most Valuable Property Owned by Average Wife Is an Average Husband

BY HAL BOYLE
NEW YORK (AP) — All statistics show that one of the most valuable properties owned by the average wife is the average husband.
The wise wife will be artfully alert to protect this investment at Christmas, as the safety records show that husbands are peculiarly susceptible to damage at this time. They are prey to all types of peril during the season of good will.
The best way to safeguard a husband during this trying period is to mothproof him, put him in a ventilated plastic bag, and hang him in the closet until three days after the radio quits playing "Jingle Bells."
However, many husbands object to this way of spending a holiday. They claim they get tired of talking to visitors through a plastic bag, and anyway what will their friends say of a guy who hangs out in closets.
So, all in all, it is perhaps just as well to let your husband have the freedom of the house. But here are a few Christmas dangers the cautious housewife will shield her butter-fingered hubby from:
1. Attacking Christmas trees. Remember, a Christmas tree is not a domesticated vegetable, but a wild thing of the forest, untamed and resentful it will topple over and stab a husband with no provocation. If your husband has been a sitting duck for Christmas trees in years past, why not lay the tree down lengthwise and decorate it in that position. Then it can needle the old man only if he trips over it and sits down on a star.
2. Egg nog indecision. Many husbands fall victim to the Christmas spirit while making eggnog. They decide first it's too weak, then too strong, then too weak. By the time papa has sampled half a dozen mixtures he begins to think he is celebrating the Fourth of July, and lights up like a roman candle. Make the eggnog yourself — and make it just once.
3. Toy entrapment. A husband always wants to get down on the floor and show the kids how to run their toys. Explain to him that toys for children today are too complicated for a grownup to understand. Sometimes it takes a doctor and two firemen to remove a husband caught in a modern Christmas toy.
4. Kris Kringle holocaust. If your husband insists on playing Santa Claus, make him take that cigar tub out of his mouth. Otherwise the kids will be wailing "Mama, Santa Claus just caught on fire, and is saying awful words like 'Daddy does.'"
5. Christmas driving. Does your husband always pick Christmas

Pro-Red Yanks Fail to Show at Conference

By GEORGE A. MCARTHUR
PANMUNJOM (AP) — Twenty-two Americans who disowned home Communist fronts failed to show up for a news conference they had requested to explain their choice.
Instead, three Koreans — also converts to communism — appeared. They said the Americans had changed their minds about talking.
The Koreans denied reports that fear instead of belief in communism was holding some of the Americans.
"Look into the matter and see," they urged Indian custodian troops.
The Americans packed for a Christmas Eve trip back to their main prison compound in the neutral zone, leaving the area where they spent the final days of Allied efforts to win them home.
The explanation period ran out Wednesday night.
At the main barbed-wire compound, all the former Allied soldiers who have chosen communism will be reunited — 22 Americans, 13 Britons, 327 Koreans. They were separated when 250 Korea attended Allied explanations and the others balked.
The prisoners will observe Christmas with a special menu of beef, chicken, pork, fruit, wine and beer furnished by the Communists, and special athletic events Christmas afternoon.
The 22 Americans will spend the next 10 days at the main compound. They, like all other prisoners who have refused repatriation, are due to be released Jan. 22 as civilians.

Nixon Backs Dean's Action in Korea

By ED CREAGH
WASHINGTON (AP) — Vice President Nixon says this country's chief negotiator was fully justified in turning his back — for the time being, anyway — on the Communists in the long, drawn-out negotiations toward starting a political conference as a sequel of the Korean War.
Asserting there has been "some criticism" of Special Ambassador Arthur H. Dean for returning to this country and leaving the Korean political talks in abeyance, Nixon told a nationwide television and radio audience last night.
"We should recognize that a time is past when we should try to reach agreement with the Communists at the conference table by surrendering to them," Dean demanded the Reds withdraw an accusation of "perfidy" against the United States. The talks have been suspended since his walkout two weeks ago.
Slapping, by implication, the Truman and Roosevelt administrations, Nixon added:
"We are paying the price in Asia for that kind of diplomacy right now."
Nixon reported by NBC television and by major radio networks on the recent 45,000-mile tour he and his wife made at President Eisenhower's behest.
As the vice president spoke, his 75-year-old father lay seriously ill in a hospital at Phoenix, Ariz. Nixon went ahead with his broadcast after talking with his father's doctor by telephone. He made no reference in his informal address to his father's illness, but lowered his eyes when he said he found in Asia "the same love for children and respect for parents that we would find in any American family."
Eisenhower, the vice president said, "has taken the offensive in the drive for peace" and "for the first time the Communists are on the defensive all over the world."
Morseover, he said, "The Communists' deeds are catching up with them."
And, said Nixon, "That is why they are losing the support of people everywhere throughout Asia."
Nixon wound up with a Christmas thought expressed, he said, by one of many Chinese children who surrounded him and his wife on their stop at Hong Kong. "The Chinese boys' message: 'We are all brothers in our hearts.'"
It would take about 200 Rhode Islands to make one Text.

Four C of C Board Members Are Named

President Ben Owen announced today the results of the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors election just completed.
The Election Canvass Committee completed their work and four board members have been elected to serve three year terms beginning January 1, 1954.
The four new members are Norman Moore, Cities Service Distributor, Henry Haynes, Haynes Brothers Department Store, Fred Robertson, Manager Rephan's Department Store, and Frank King, Southwest Wood Products Company.
The resigning members who have completed their three year terms for the Board of Directors are President Owen, Jim LaGrossa, Vincent Foster, and Guy Basye. The eight remaining members with one or two years remaining on their terms are Eddie Whitman, Syvill Burke, Frank Douglas, J. L. Leblong, Fred Gresham, Talbot Field Jr., K. E. Ambrose and Claude Tilley.
Retiring President Owen has called for an organizational meeting of the entire board for Monday evening, December 28 at 7:30 p. m. in the Hope Chamber of Commerce office.

Special Christmas Program to Be Carried by KXAR

Radio Station KXAR will present a series of special Christmas programs both on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The programs will start with a broadcast of the Whitehouse Christmas Tree Lighting in Washington, D. C.
During the evening KXAR will feature such artists as Bing Crosby, Mario Lanza, Fred Waring, Red Foley, and many other famous entertainers in special Christmas programs. On Christmas day, programs will begin early in the morning.
Some of the highlights include the Presbyterian Christmas Cantata at 8:30 a. m. and the Methodist Christmas Cantata at 4 p. m. Special Mutual around-the-world broadcasts will also appear several times during the two day series.
At 1:45 p. m. Saturday KXAR will carry the Blue-Gray game in which Arkansas' Lamar plays and Sunday noon the professional game will be broadcast.

A Christmas Behind Barbed Wire Not Good

By BOB THOMAS
HOLLYWOOD (AP) — What is Christmas like behind barbed wire?
Bob Wise can answer that. This will be the first Christmas in four years he has spent outside a Communist prison camp. Another Christmas, longer ago, was spent in a German prison camp.
"It wasn't so bad under the Germans," says Capt. Robert Wise of the U. S. Army. "We were allowed to have religious services and have songs and plays. But under the Communists..."
Wise will fly today to his home in Tacoma, Wash., to spend his first Yuletide with his son, 4-year-old Robert Kent. He is here as technical advisor on a film called "The Prisoner of War Story."
Wise remembers his first Christmas under the Reds "as perhaps the worst experience of my life."
"On Christmas night we ended a 25-day march through the bitter cold. Most of the men — those who survived — were sick, starving and frozen. Our only solace was a chaplain, a Catholic priest and a saintly man, who would not rest until he had ministered to each man, even though he knew that would infuriate the Reds. Later he died of an infection; the Communists did little to save him."
"The next Christmas was better. It appeared that the truce talks were coming to a head, and the Reds didn't want us to appear starved. Wise himself dropped from 175 to around 110 pounds. So they brought in a truckload of frozen chicken and pigs and gave us a feast. After the talks stalled, we went back to our miserable life."
"The same thing happened in the Christmas of 1952. They even let us have a program, but everything was censored. We couldn't sing 'Don't Fence Me In.' Even a song about 'Fields of yellow corn' was deleted; they were that conscious of their color. Anything that indicated the word 'red' was allowed. They approved Dickens' 'Christmas Carol' because of the Christmas 'sergeant.'"
Wise was first captured in January, 1944. He and his outfit had crossed the Rapido River in Italy, to supply a diversionary action to assist the landings at Anzio.
His capture in Korea occurred Dec. 1, 1950. That was during the first retreat, and his division was holding the main artery to allow other divisions to get south.
As Capt. Wise celebrates Christmas with his family, his thoughts go back to a fellow in his outfit who was also captured but chose not to return.
"He was a boy 17 years old, very immature and unhappy," the officer recalled. "I am sure that if he returned to this country, he would spend many years in a mental institution."
"I can't understand those guys who stayed. They're a valuable propaganda tool for the Reds now. But they must know that as soon as they are no longer of use to the Reds, they'll be eliminated."
Capt. Wise can't help but wonder what kind of a Christmas that boy will be having tomorrow.

Local Board to Close Christmas

Practically all local business houses will observe Christmas day and Saturday by closing. The Local Board No. 20 will close today noon and all day Christmas.

Christians of World Observe Christmas

By The Associated Press
Christians the world around look forward today to one of the most joyous observances in years of the birth of Jesus Christ. They were buoyed by the greatest hope for peace-justified or not since the start of the cold war.
Although officials were skeptical, millions in Europe felt the threat of war had ebbed with the signing of the Korean truce and indications that the Soviet government was paying more attention to the welfare of its people at home than to spreading the Communist gospel abroad.
"The end this year of the fighting in Korea and the release of thousands of Communist-held prisoners also brightened hopes throughout prosperous America. Here, as in other lands, traditional Christmas Eve festivities and ceremonies were the order of the day.
But some trouble spots still blighted the world's face as the faithful prepared for the birthday of the Prince of Peace. French Union troops struggled on in their war against the Communist-led Vietnamese rebels in Indochina. British forces stood guard in Malaya against jungle forays by Red Chinese guerrillas, and in Africa's Kenya colony against attacks by the anti-white Mau Mau tribesmen.
In Korea, a special night flew tons of last-minute Christmas mail to the thousands of American troops still stationed in that war-torn country. Special services, including more than a dozen masses celebrated by visiting Francis Cardinal Spellman, Roman Catholic Archbishop of New York, marked Christmas Eve observances on the now quiet front.
In line with the general prosperity and relaxation throughout the world, pilgrims poured into the little town of Bethlehem, the birthplace of Christ. Pious that Arab-Israeli tension along the border dividing the Holy Land might frighten tourists away proved unfounded. The greatest influx of visitors since the 1918 Palestine war was in prospect.

Ike Cautions France to Get in Line

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER
WASHINGTON (AP) — President Eisenhower gravely told France late yesterday he United States will reexamine its basic European policies unless the proposed European Defense Community providing for German rearmament is set up soon.
The President expressed this view in a statement as the third move in an extraordinary campaign directed by Secretary of State Dulles to carry the EDC issue directly to the French people and win their support of it.
Eisenhower acted little more than an hour after the French parliament, on the 13th ballot, elected Sen. Rene Coty to be the new president of the French Republic.
Thus the first important foreign policy step of the American government following Coty's election was a sharp reminder that the United States is counting on EDC to provide peace and security for Western Europe.
EDC is a proposed six-nation union of the French Parliament and in one uniform troop from France, West Germany, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg. Originally proposed by France, it has been stymied by inaction of the French Parliament. The reason usually cited is French fear of a rearmaged Germany.
"I can't understand those guys who stayed. They're a valuable propaganda tool for the Reds now. But they must know that as soon as they are no longer of use to the Reds, they'll be eliminated."
Capt. Wise can't help but wonder what kind of a Christmas that boy will be having tomorrow.

Two Accidents Investigated

Two accidents were investigated in this area Thursday morning. On Highway 67, about three miles east, Mrs. Victorine Brumley, 22, Arizona was injured slightly when the auto in which she was riding collided with another vehicle whose driver was not immediately identified.
She was taken to a local hospital for treatment. In the other case, West 18th, a City truck driven by Cleveland Brewer and another driven by Mrs. A. S. Rowe collided with only minor damage resulting.

News Briefs

LITTLE ROCK (UPI) — McAlister-Davis Co., Memphis, Tenn., was apparent low bidder on bank stabilization work on the Arkansas river in Pulaski County.

Army engineers opened bids from 12 firms yesterday and announced that the Memphis firm submitted the apparent low combination bid of \$212,800 on two projects, one for bank stabilization at Bates Place, near Scott, and the other for reclamation installation at Waring's Bend, downstream from Bates Place.

McAlister-Davis bid \$124,200 on the first project and \$119,700 on the reclamation installation.

Early-day drinking glasses were made with painted or rounded bottoms so that they had to be held in the hand until the last of the liquid was consumed.

Through the ages, Christmas has marked the occasion for the expression of good will and thanks. At this season, we want you to know of our appreciation, and sincerely wish you a

MERRY CHRISTMAS



WARD & SON

The Leading Druggists
Mr. and Mrs. Finley Ward

There Are Fair Times, Bad Times — This Letter Is One Written in the Latter Period

Editor's Note: Hal Boyle, who by his nature always measures the time present by times future and time past, renews at his own invitation the following letter home he wrote in 1950, a bitter and stubborn time, and takes this way to recall a period that deserves America's remembrance.

By HAL BOLE

SEOUL, Korea, (AP) — A letter to Christmas.

Dear wife:

The star of Bethlehem may have shown as usual over America and the rest of the free world this Christmas season, but it was rather difficult to see here.

The nights have been cloudy in this capital of a land of agony, a country as troubled now as was the country in which Jesus was born.

Many a refugee mother these days hasn't even the manger comfort given to Mary so long ago. There is no small inn where Joseph can take her. There isn't even a manger to shield her from curious eyes as she bears her child.

A frozen roadside ditch has been the birth bed for many a young Korean. In recent weeks, the mother has had to rise and walk shakily on, clutching her new-born babe to her bosom and hoping to find a refuge somewhere for it and for her. Where there is so much misery there are few sanctuaries.

The infant Jesus had a better start in this world than many Ko-

rean babies.

If the Prince of Peace is looking down on us now from Heaven, as we were taught to believe, he must feel the aches that mortals still inflict upon each other as blindly as they once inflicted them upon his own immortal self when he fell by choice within the reach of their ignorance and passions.

Santa Claus came here in small ways. The United Nations troops generally had a better Christmas than they had expected, considering the military emergency. Special airplane flights brought them mail and many last-minute packages from home.

They may have had to stagger over several days, but even all the headline companies managed to rotate their men back in time to get the same old Christmas meal enjoyed by rear area troops.

The basic menu was the same: cream of tomato soup, olives, roast turkey with cranberry sauce, rabbit gravy, candied sweet potatoes, buttered corn and green peas, fruit cake and hot mince pie, Parker House rolls, coffee, cream, hard candy, salted nuts, cigarettes and a big special Christmas cake.

It all tasted wonderful to men tired of eating the same old basic rations out of cold cans for five or six months.

These men in the field showed so much ingenuity to keep the spirit of Christmas alive, honey, that it would break your heart to see how stubbornly they cling to things they love.

The doughboys went out into the

dangerous hills to bring back evergreen growths to serve as Christmas trees. They cut sections from cans for stars. They saved the foil from their cigarettes packs for works to give their trees silver glitter. First-aid cotton and bandages served as artificial snow.

The American Christmas ration was distributed to all United Nations troops who shared this Christmas holiday. A British correspondent said that he had never seen his troops enjoy a better meal, either a wartime or in barracks. As usual at this time, the British officers personally served their enlisted men—a wonderful custom.

The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders had a special treat—by hundreds of puddings sent by their own colonel-in-chief, Princess Elizabeth.

For most of us over here there was a sense of guilt about trying to celebrate Christmas in an atmosphere of temporary plenty in a country that lives in perpetual need.

We passed a few tips around to

the Koreans who served our men in the rear area, but how can it save your conscience to give a package of cigarettes and a thousand won — 25 cents — to a Korean waiter who is frightened by the Chinese Reds and wants to send his family three hundred south.

He needs at least 1,500,000 won to rent space in a Korean civilian truck to send his wife and children, his father-in-law, mother-in-law, aunt, cousins and all the other relatives of Koreans have and wish to protect, to Pusan at the Southern tip of the peninsula. That is \$375 in American money.

What can you do when a number of people come to you hopefully and ask you for help in getting their family out of Seoul?

They come to you for aid simply because you have been kind enough to say "Thank you" to them and to regard them as individuals. But how can you help them in their real desperation? Politeness is nice but it doesn't make you a Rockefeller or a Gen-

eral Motors truck factory. And you would have to have the money of a millionaire or the vehicle of a millionaires or the vehicle of a millionaires — or both — to solve the problems of all who seek assistance.

Santa Claus does come in some ways. If you aren't a Croesus who can solve the problems of all the civilians here sometimes you unexpectedly feel, without having meant to do so, that you have done some good in a season where every Christian is reminded he should live as the First Christian taught.

One front line lieutenant on rest leave wandered into our press billet. He was a stranger but we managed to line him up one good meal, a drink and a shot shower. He showed us pictures of his

wife and baby and said "You have given me my Christmas." His humbleness destroyed any self pity we had at not being home with those we love.

But there is a time for staying and a time for coming home. So keep that light shining in that same old window. I'll be home as soon as a fair time comes — and I feel there is a happier new year in sight than many of us thought could be.

Your loving, optimistic husband,

Hal



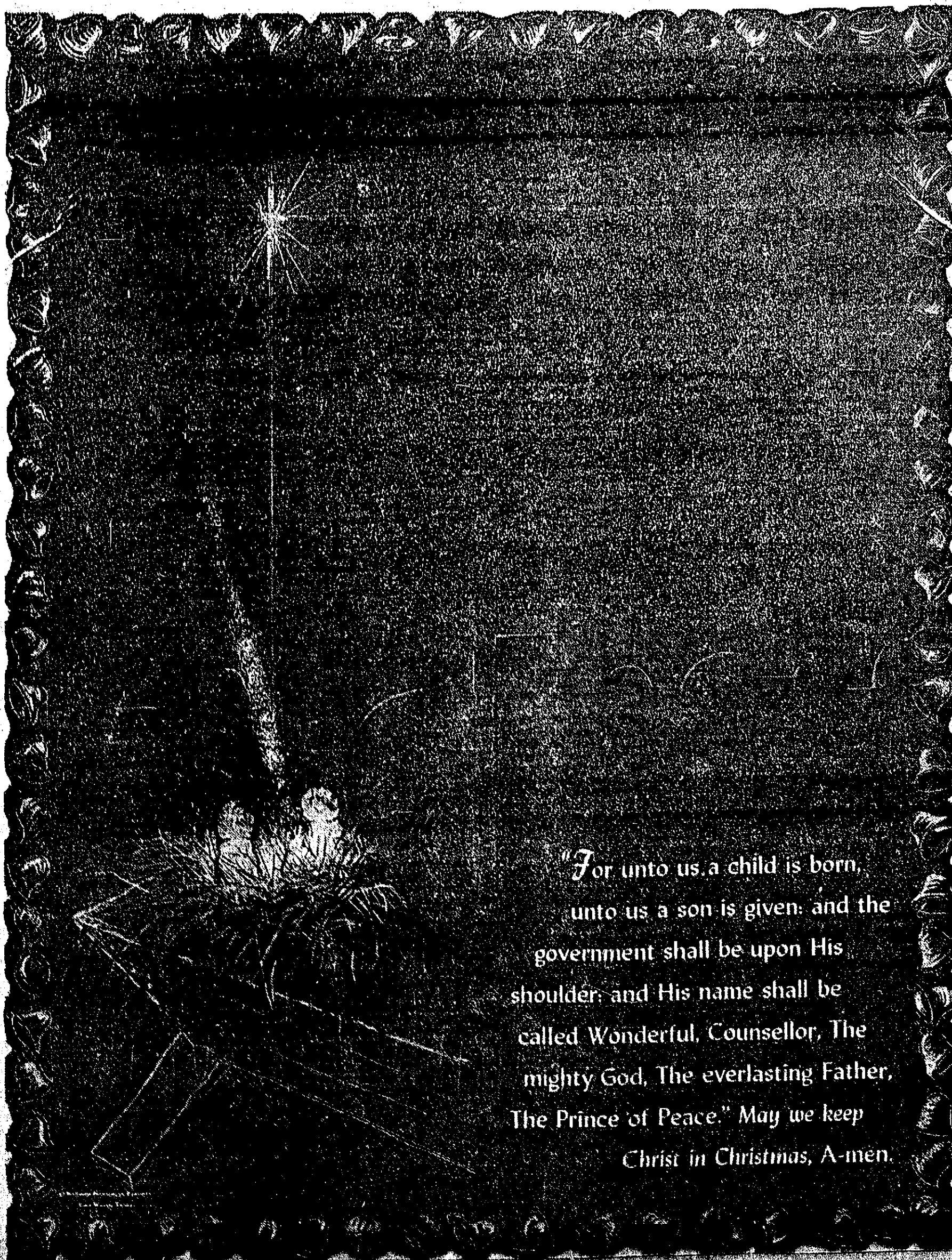
MERRY CHRISTMAS!

BOSWELL SISTERS
BEAUTY SHOP

413 West 5th

Phone 7-3271

God Bless America -- Her People and Her Churches



"For unto us a child is born,
unto us a son is given: and the
government shall be upon His
shoulder, and His name shall be
called Wonderful, Counsellor, The
mighty God, The everlasting Father,
The Prince of Peace." May we keep
Christ in Christmas, A-men.

James Cleaners
• "It Pays to Look Well"

Ralph Montgomery Market
• Your Friendly Shopping Center

William M. Duckett
• Buyers of Scrap Iron & Metal

Owen's Department Store
• Ben Owen

Hope Furniture Co.
• Headquarters for Fine Furniture

B & B Grocery and Market
• Dewey Baber

Bill Wray Supply Co.
• Quality Building Materials and Paint

Citizens National Bank
• Member FDIC

Feeders Supply Co.
• Your Purina Dealer

Hope Theatres, Inc.
• Eldon Coffman, City, Mgr.

Hempstead County Farmers Assn.
• Farmer Owned and Operated
Dewey McKnelly, Mgr.

Gunter Lumber Co.
• Your Building Store

Andy Andrews Insurance Agency
• Savings to 40%

Butane Gas Co.
• Butane Gas and Appliances

Collier Tire & Battery Service
• Dunlop Tires — Excella Batteries —
Emerson TV

Southwestern Packing Co.
• Pork and Beef Packers

Stephens Grocery Co.
• Wholesale Grocer

Louisiana Nevada Transit Co.
• Natural Gas Utilities

Hope Transfer & Storage Co.
• Packing - Crating - Moving

Crescent Drug Store
• Prescription Specialists

Porter Garage & Glass Shop
• Expert Auto Repair — Glass Installed

W. Shanhouse Sons, Inc.
• Clothing Manufacturers

Rettig Nash Motors
• Nash Sales & Service

Mid-South Cotton & Supply
• A. E. Slusser

Midwest Dairy Products
• Nature's Most Healthful Food

Young Chevrolet Co.
• Chevrolet Sales & Service

Cox Bros. Foundry & Machine Co.
• Everything In Machine Shop Work

First National Bank
• Member FDIC

Hope Basket Company
• Phone 7-2345

Graydon Anthony Lumber Co.
• Lewisville Highway

Bruner-Ivory Handle Co.
• Phone 7-2304

Byers Abstract Co.
• J. P. Byers

Hope Federal Savings and
Loan Association
• Your Savings Insured up to \$10,000

Hempstead Motor Co.
• Pontiac and GMC Sales and Service

Corn Belt Hatchery
• Quality Broiler Type Chicks

SOCIETY

Phone 7-3431 Between 8 A. M. and 4 P. M.

Dahlia Garden Club

Has Christmas Luncheon

Mrs. Beverly Johnson, Sr. and Mrs. Beverly Johnson Jr. were hostesses to the Dahlia Garden Club Christmas luncheon on December 22. They were assisted by Medames Edna Powell, Floyd Fuller, Wayne Lafferty and Olaf Luck.

Club members and guests were seated at banquet tables centered with burning tapers in poinsettia holders over beautiful hand-made cutwork linen luncheon cloths. The dining table was covered with a linen cutwork banquet cloth made by Mrs. Beverly Johnson, Sr.

The living room carried out the Christmas theme with arrangements of red and white carnations and a glittering lighter tree.

After a turkey dinner, everyone was invited into the living room, where gifts were exchanged from the tree and an interesting program was presented by Mrs. Arch Moore on Christmas customs in other lands. Mrs. A. D. Middlebrooks, Jr. won the prize for the most beautiful package.

Guests of the club were Mrs. Hollis Luck, City Federation President, Mrs. Arch Moore, Mrs. Claude Age of Hope, and Mrs. Byron Helmer of Texarkana.

Single Ring Ceremony

Doris Harding

And Arlene Pettit

Private First Class Arlene Pettit, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cleod Pettit of Hope, and Miss Doris Harding

daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. V. Harding of Nashville were married in a single ring ceremony at Mineral Springs, on December 22.

The bride chose a blue suit with black accessories.

Mr. and Mrs. Dale Hoxey were the couple's only attendants. Mrs. Hoxey wore a brown suit with black accessories.

Betty Mitchell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ivy Mitchell, became the bride of Don LaFantasie, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. T. LaFantasie of San Antonio in a ceremony performed at 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon at the Rocky Mount Baptist Church.

Rev. Coy Zumwalt officiated before an altar decorated with baskets of white stocks and seven branched candelabra holding white Cathedral tapers.

Miss Sue Gilbert, pianist, played a program of nuptial music and accompanied Billy Mitchell, brother of the bride, who sang "Al-ways" and "Because."

The bride, given in marriage by her father, wore a dress of blue faille with matching jacket and a small hat of blue leaves centered with rhinestones. She carried a purple-throated orchid on a white ribbon.

Mrs. Mary Bain, matron of honor, was dressed in pink faille with navy accessories and carried a cascade bouquet of blue carnations.

The candle lighters Brenda Mitchell and Nita Messer, sister and cousin of the bride, wore identical frocks of pink taffeta and wristlets of feathered blue carnations.

Raymond Byers served the groom as best man.

Mrs. Mitchell, mother of the bride, chose a suit of pink wool with brown velvet trim. Her corsage was of pink gardenias.

Following a trip to San Antonio, the couple will be at Texarkana. For travel the bride wore a purple wool jersey with black accessories and an orchid corsage.

Miss Carolyn Locke is married to Kelley Dale Wood.

Miss Carolyn Irene Locke, of Hope and Magnolia, and Kelley Dale Wood of Magnolia and Heber Springs, were married at 2 o'clock on Sunday, December 20, by Reverend S. A. Whitlow in a simple double ring ceremony in the presence of the family and very close friends at the home of the bride's parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Locke in Hope. The parents of the groom are Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus Wood of Heber Springs.

Echols Locke, brother of the bride, and Mrs. Locke were the couple's only attendants.

After a wedding trip to Houston, Mr. and Mrs. Wood will be at home at 704 North Jackson in Magnolia.

daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. V. Harding of Nashville were married in a single ring ceremony at Mineral Springs, on December 22.

The bride chose a blue suit with black accessories.

Mr. and Mrs. Dale Hoxey were the couple's only attendants. Mrs. Hoxey wore a brown suit with black accessories.

Betty Mitchell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ivy Mitchell, became the bride of Don LaFantasie, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. T. LaFantasie of San Antonio in a ceremony performed at 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon at the Rocky Mount Baptist Church.

Rev. Coy Zumwalt officiated before an altar decorated with baskets of white stocks and seven branched candelabra holding white Cathedral tapers.

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Russians Just Can't Answer With Yes

By JAMES MARLOW

WASHINGTON, (AP)—If the Russians ever answer an invitation with a simple "yes" it will probably be the tipoff they've changed. It has just taken them 3,000 words to say "maybe."

It was in reply to President Eisenhower's suggestion that the country, the Soviets and others should try to agree on a plan for using some of their atomic materials for peaceful purposes.

The Russians said, or they seemed to say they would talk. But they hedged this seeming acceptance in such a way that they could back off before the talks began or wreck them after they started.

From the end of World War II until now this country and Russia have been deadlocked over how to agree on banning atomic weapons.

Meanwhile both have been busily making bigger and better bombs.

When Eisenhower stepped up to address the United Nations Dec. 8, there was no reason to hope there ever would be agreement on the bomb. Then, boiled down, this is what he proposed:

Many steps will have to be taken before we agree on outlawing atomic weapons; let us talk about how to use some of our atomic materials for the good of mankind; if we can agree on that, maybe we can then go on and eventually agree on the bomb.

This was an attempt to find a new path through the woods. The reaction everywhere in the world, except behind the Iron Curtain, was favorable. Even if Russia rejected his proposal, Eisenhower had gained some good will for this country.

After all, all he had proposed was that this country and Russia talk over the idea and talk wouldn't cost the Russians a dime.

Refusing to talk could cost them plenty in world opinion.

The Russians soon let it be known they were seriously considering Eisenhower's proposal.

Yesterday with Russian put them "maybe," the Russians put themselves in the position of appearing just as eager for the talks as Eisenhower, provided—

That's where they gave themselves an out. For almost all of the 3,000 words they propagated about their peace loving nature and intention, and insisted:

The really important thing is not agreement on peaceful use of atomic materials but on banning the bomb. They said Eisenhower had ignored the banning problem, although he didn't.

He said his proposal would "open up a new channel for peaceful discussion and initiate at least a new approach to the many difficult problems that must be solved in both private and public conversations if the world is to shake off the inertia imposed by fear and to make positive progress toward peace."

This is where Russians, while seeming to say they would talk with this country, actually gave themselves an opening never to talk or, if they began the talks, to break them up.

They said they expect the United States to do some more explaining—before there are talks on what Eisenhower has in mind because, they said, he wasn't clear enough in "essential parts."

If they get such explanations, and don't like them, they can make accusations against the United States and refuse to talk.

But if the talks began, the Russians said, they want those taking part to "undertake" pledges not to use the bomb.

Mr. and Mrs. Lucien Abraham, Jr. and daughter, Beck, of Mayfield, Kentucky will spend the Christmas holidays with Mrs. C. C. McNeill and Suzanne.

Mr. and Mrs. Pod Rogers and son, Doug, will leave today for Horatio, where they will spend the holidays with Mrs. Rogers' parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Amorette.

Pvt. Billy N. Burns of Fort Sill, Oklahoma, is spending the Christmas holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Glen Burns of Pat-

Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie Walters and little daughter, Ann, of Fort Riley, Kansas arrived Wednesday to spend the Christmas holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Walters and others and other friends and relatives.

Births

Mr. and Mrs. Jack L. Reasoner of Austin, Texas, announce the arrival of a seven pound baby girl, Margaret Sander, on December 23, in Tyler, Texas. Mrs. Reasoner is the former Peggy Cook. The maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Fred H. Cook.

Hospital Notes

Julia Chester

Admitted: Mrs. James York, Rt. 4, Hope. Jessie Eubanks, Fort Worth, Texas. Mrs. Raymond Jordan, Hope. Mrs. Louis Sutton Jr., Hope.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Jordan, Hope, announce the arrival of a daughter, Wednesday, December 23, 1953.

Icebox Tragedy in Which Five Died, Voted Biggest Story of Year by Arkansas Editors

By CARL BELL

LITTLE ROCK, (AP)—The biggest Arkansas news story of 1953 was the suffocation of five children in an old icebox on a Crittenden County farm.

That tragedy was voted the top spot by a wide margin in an Associated Press poll of the state's newspaper editors and radio newscasters.

The prolonged summer and fall drought was cited as the No. 2 story, barely nosing out a series of seven bank robberies that hit the headlines from February to December.

It was Aug. 12 when death took its big toll at the farm home of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Hallman near Proctor.

While the mother was working in a cotton field with two older children and the father was at work in another state, the five youngsters were trapped in the old-fashioned ice box.

Coroner T. H. Gough said the children apparently were playing inside the box when the overhead door slammed down and automatically latched, imprisoning the children in a compartment 30 by 19 by 29 inches. All were dead when found.

A grand jury which investigated the case found no evidence of foul play, but the father insisted it was murder, not an accident.

Springing of the grand jury's action, Hallman said:

"They threw the case out but I still know it wasn't an accident. I'm leaving and I'm never coming back to Arkansas."

The victims ranged in age from two to eight years. Two of them were 4-year-old twins.

Arkansas had a similar tragedy in 1949, when three children suffocated in an old icebox at Walnut Ridge. It was that year's No. 3 news story.

Here is a rundown on the other stories the experts picked in the first 10:

No. 2—Drought: The lack of general rain from mid-May to mid-September and an unusually dry spell on into late fall hit hard at all Arkansas crops with the ex-

ception of cotton, broilers and rice. The cattle industry suffered the most and the government found it necessary to step in with an emergency hay program so that growers might feed their herds.

No. 3—Bank robberies: A total of \$100,312.63 was stolen in the worst outbreak of banditry in Arkansas since 1934. The holdups occurred at Chidester, Franklin, Van Buren, Marmaduke, Welmer, Kingston and Safford—all in North Arkansas.

The biggest robbery was the \$51,070.50 stickup of the Marmaduke Branch of the Security Bank and Trust Company of Paragould on Sept. 24. The robber remains at liberty and no trace of any of the money has been found.

The second largest robbery was the \$19,730.13 taken from the Citizens Bank and Trust Company of Van Buren July 1. This money was recovered when two men were captured the next day. In addition, there were found unsuccessful attempts to rob Arkansas banks this year.

No. 4—The Head Murder case: Five-year-old Mary Wolfe was beaten, wrapped in burlap wire and anchored to the bottom of a rain barrel at the farm home of her foster parents, Mr. and Mrs. James W. Head, near Tex. Ar. on Dec. 23, 1952. The body was found Dec. 30. Mrs. Head was arrested in Arkansas and later, on Jan. 22, 1953, Head was nabbed in Kansas. Mrs. Head was convicted of second degree murder and sentenced to 12 years in prison. Head, charged with first degree murder, was found to be insane and now is an inmate of the State Hospital.

No. 5—The release and homecoming of prisoners of war: Arkansas families, like those elsewhere in the world, stayed close to their telephones and radios and hawked their newspapers for weeks as the Communists released Allied prisoners who had been captured in Korea. Among the freed Arkansas was Lt. James Stone of Hot Springs and Pine Bluff, who received the Congressional Medal of Honor upon his return.

No. 6—The new, "non-political" Arkansas Highway Commission: The commission consists of five members appointed under authority of a constitutional amendment adopted at the 1952 general election. Shortly after taking office, the commissioners established a policy of giving priority to construction where right-of-way was donated to the state. The Arkansas County Judges Association opposed this policy vigorously, holding that the state should share in right-of-way costs, especially for removing fences, dwellings, barns and other obstructions. Both sides held their ground and now the controversy seems to have died out. Numerous jobs have been contracted under the policy, which the commission says will save many millions to pave many more miles of roads.

No. 7—Conclusion of the Highway Audit Commission's investigation: The year 1953 saw the winding up of the probe of past irregularities in Highway Department operations. The investigation was started by the HAC early in 1952. Five men were charged in the court. The count against one was dismissed by the judge before coming to trial. The four other defendants were tried. One was convicted and received a suspended sentence; the others were acquitted.

No. 8—The 1953 Legislature: Principal actions of this biennial session were: Adoption of Gov. Francis Cherry's Pledge Code; referral to the 1954 general election of Cherry's proposed constitutional amendment for full value assessment of property for tax purposes; tightening of welfare laws; making compulsory the 30-day waiting period before issuance of divorce decrees and the three-day waiting period prior to issuance of marriage license; enactment of a law requiring a premarital examination for communicable syphilis.

No. 9—The Army-Navy Hospital at Hot Springs in October, the Defense Department issued an order that the land-mark hospital be

Mr. and Mrs. Simpson Complimented

Mr. and Mrs. D. L. McRae Jr. entertained a few of their friends at their home on Saturday evening for the pleasure of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Simpson of Cincinnati, Ohio house guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Bemis.

The rooms were beautifully decorated in the Christmas motif. Arrangements of red carnations were placed on the coffee table and the dining table.

Other guests included Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gilbert, Dr. and Mrs. O. G. Hirst, Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Bemis, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Bemis, Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Whitaker, Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Ellsworth and Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Bemis.

Youth Fellowship Has Christmas Party

Twenty-seven members of the Youth Fellowship of the First Methodist Church enjoyed a Christmas program at the church on Sunday afternoon that was closed with a Christmas reading by Miss Margaret Hunter Scott.

Refreshments were served by the W. S. C. S.

Dr. and Mrs. N. R. Nelson and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Gordon are sponsors of the group.

Jr. Musical Coterie Dance

Dr. and Mrs. Jack Harrell, Mr. and Mrs. Jess Hays, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Buchanan, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Lewis and Mrs. Max Kittchen entertained with a dance on Friday evening at the Legion Hut for members of the Junior Musical Coterie and their guests.

The massive mantle over the burning fire place was banked with holly and pine.

Games were also played during the evening.

Jerry Worthington served as Santa Claus and distributed the gifts from the brilliantly lighted Christmas tree.

Ice cream Santa Claus were served to the 40 attending.

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Federal employees of the F. H. A. held a Christmas party on Friday afternoon in the office of N. W. Daniel assisted by Mrs. Bill Gordon, Miss Mattie Jean Atkins and Jim Nelson.

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Coffee and fruit cake were served from a table covered with a white cloth stenciled with poinsettias.

Jada McGuire showed pictures of the building and personnel.

Mrs. Everett Proctor of Wynne, Miss Jane Kitchen and Mr. McGuire were guests. Others present included Mrs. Robbie Wilson, Miss Louise Martin, Mrs. Charlie Thomas, Mrs. W. F. Cummings, Mrs. E. Logan, Mrs. Max Kittchen, Mrs. Madge Burgess, Miss Caroline Harris, Mrs. Arlice Pittman, Mrs. Lucy Lee Cruise, Jack Robey, Carol Bratton and Clidie Johnson.

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DOROTHY DIX

That Defiant Age

Dear Miss Dix: I will be 18 next month, and of legal age to defy my parents and marry whom I choose. So my problem will be solved with my marriage to Jack, who is 23. However, I wish you would write a few words to parents in general, including mine, to keep from meddling in their children's personal affairs.

Jack and I have been keeping company for six months. Until I met him I had few boy friends. My parents indulged me in every whim until it came to the most important thing of all. Following is a list of their objections: they claim I'm too young and emotionally immature to know my own mind; that I don't know the difference between love and fascination; that an extra adjustment must be made in a mixed marriage; that I'm making too great a sacrifice in converting to Jack's religion, particularly when I don't believe in it; that he's not as well educated.

closed next March 1. Gov. Cherry, Senators McClellan and Fulbright and others met with government officials in Washington and persuaded them to reconsider the fate of the institution. The original order was withdrawn and the matter still is under study.

No. 10—Fiscal Code: This comprehensive legislation, proposed by Cherry and adopted by the Legislature, revised state financing, purchasing and accounting procedures. It gives extensive power to a finance director, Veteran state career employee Frank Storey was named to that job by the governor. The Fiscal Code provides, among other things, for a state motor pool and post-auditing of state expenditures under direction of a legislative committee. The code was whittled down somewhat by attorney general's opinions and a Supreme Court ruling that the job of awarding state printing contracts must remain with the secretary of state, instead of being shifted to the finance director. Cherry has expressed satisfaction with the way the code is working and says it will save money for the state.

Two big Hot Springs stories were surprisingly overlooked by the news experts in the voting.

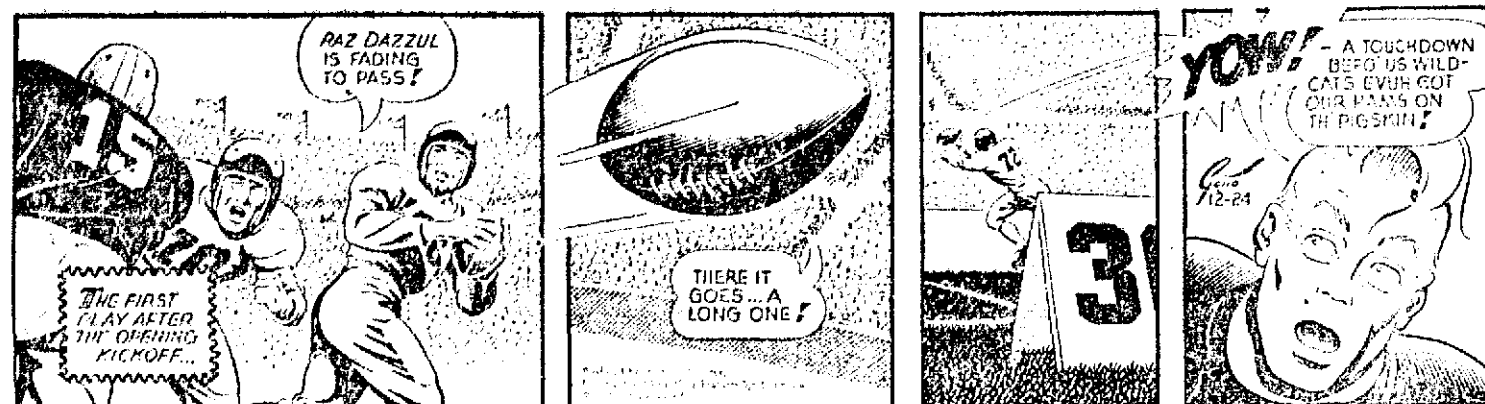
One of these was the case of Mrs. Velma Lorraine Swafford, 36-year-old registered nurse who admitted killing her children, Mike 3, and Donna Ruth 2½, in November with injections of chloride of mercury and attempting unsuccessfully to take her own life with drugs. She explained that Mike had the incurable disease, muscular dystrophy and that she didn't want the little girl to go through life alone. Mrs. Swafford was charged with murder and committed to the State Hospital for pre-trial mental examination.

Only one editor named this story and, then, placed it ninth.

The other way the controversy over Hot Springs' attempt to break down the racial barrier in the Class C Cotton States Baseball League, Hot Springs signed two Negro pitchers, brothers James and Leander Tugerson, but never used them in a game and finally turned them out. Jame sue the league for damages but dropped the suit, when he was sold this fall to Dallas of the Texas League.

Answer: Better save two divorces. You'll probably

By Roy Gotta



By J. R. Williams



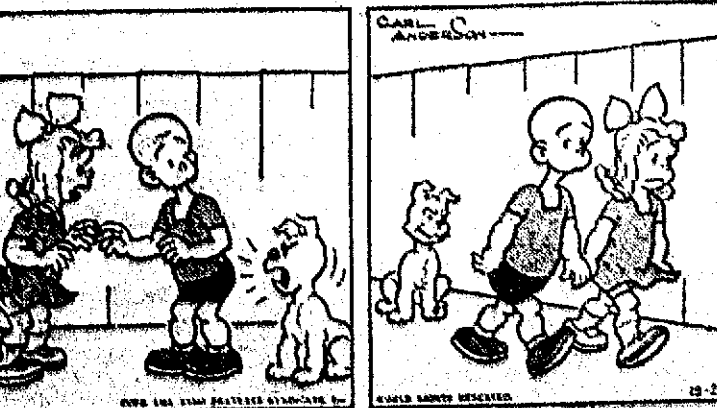
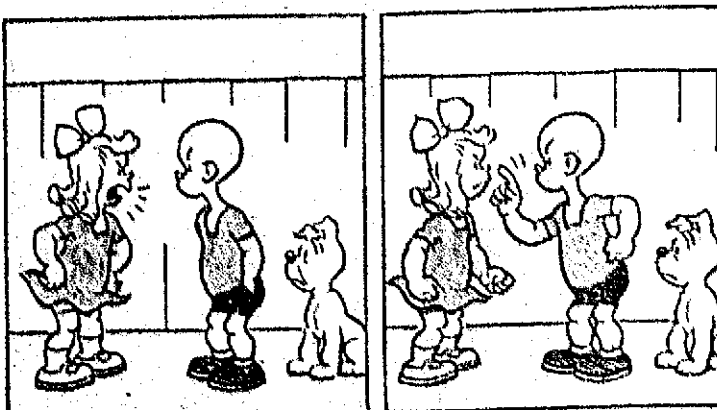
With Major Hoopla



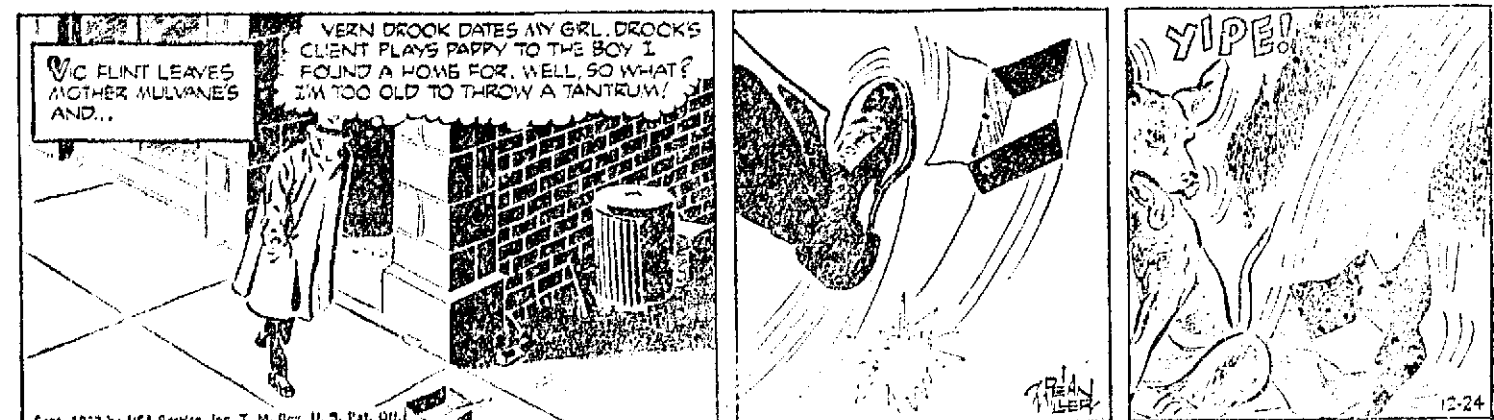
By Hershberger



By Carl Anderson



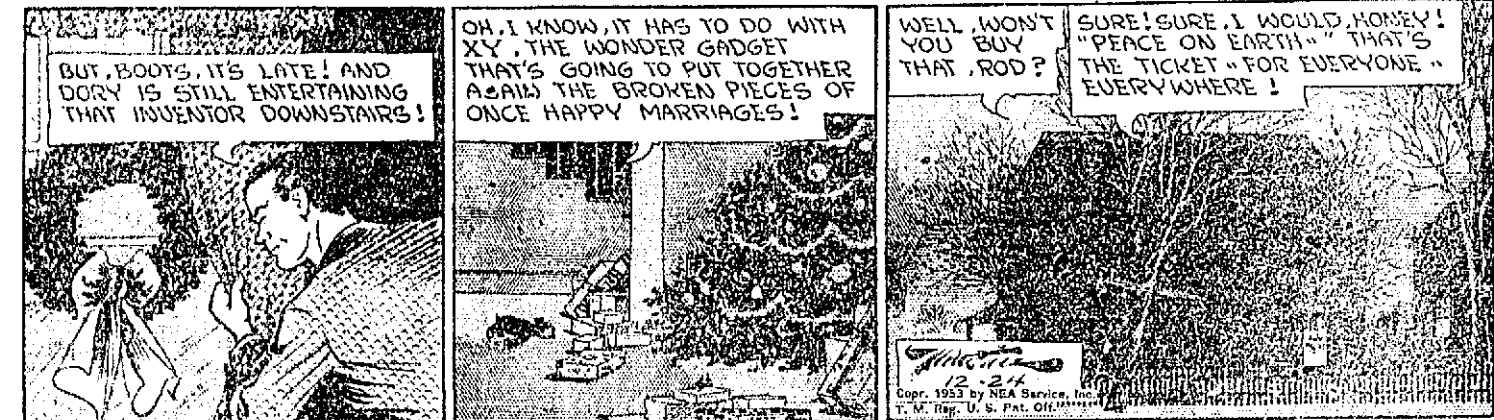
By Michael O'Malley and Ralph Lone



By Leslie Turner



By Edgar Martin



By V. T. Hamlin



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By Russ Winterbotham



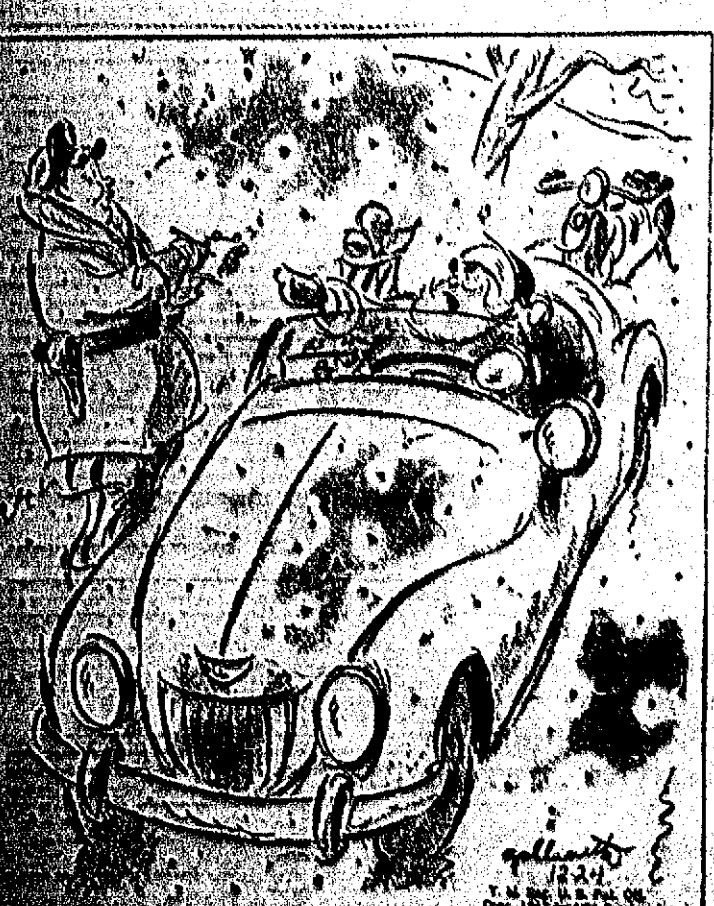
By Wilson Scruggs



By Dick Turner

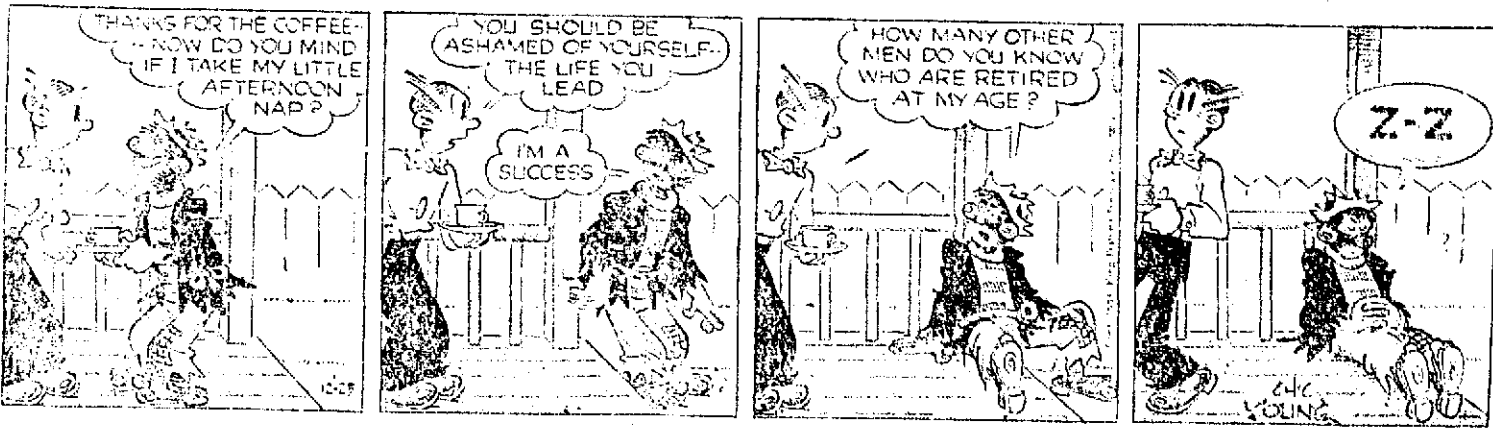


By Galbraith



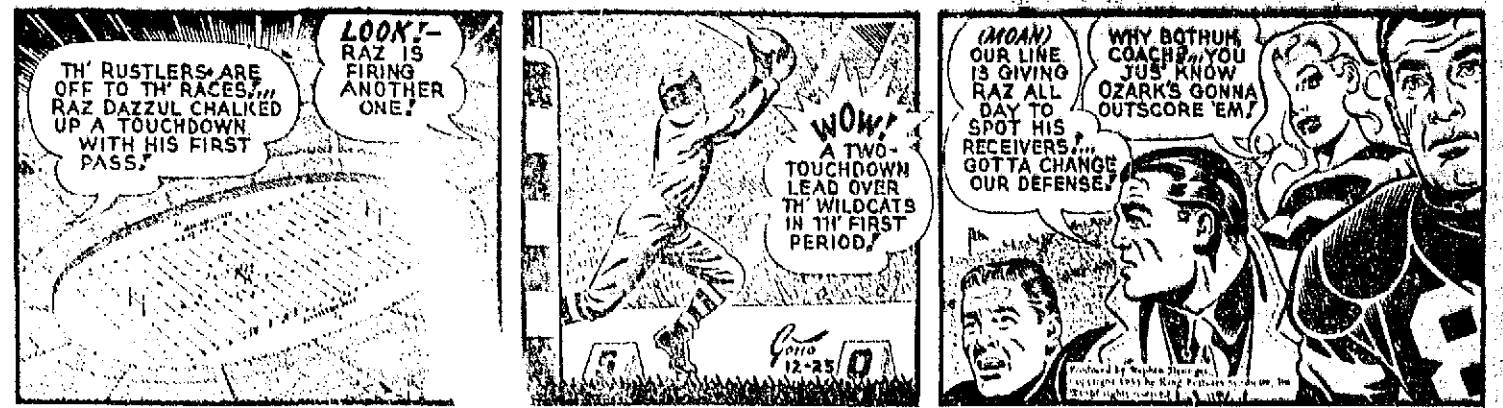
But I'm late for the Jones' party! Besides, you wouldn't

BLONDIE



OSARK IKE

By Ray Gatto



OUT OUR WAY

By J. R. Williams



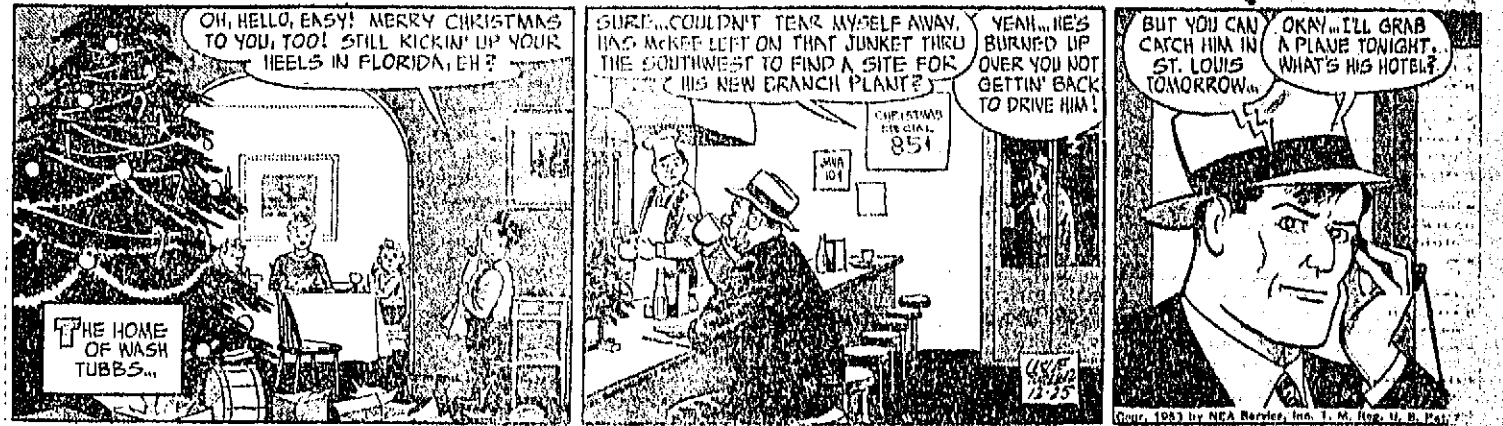
VIC FLINT

By Michael O'Malley and Ralph Lane



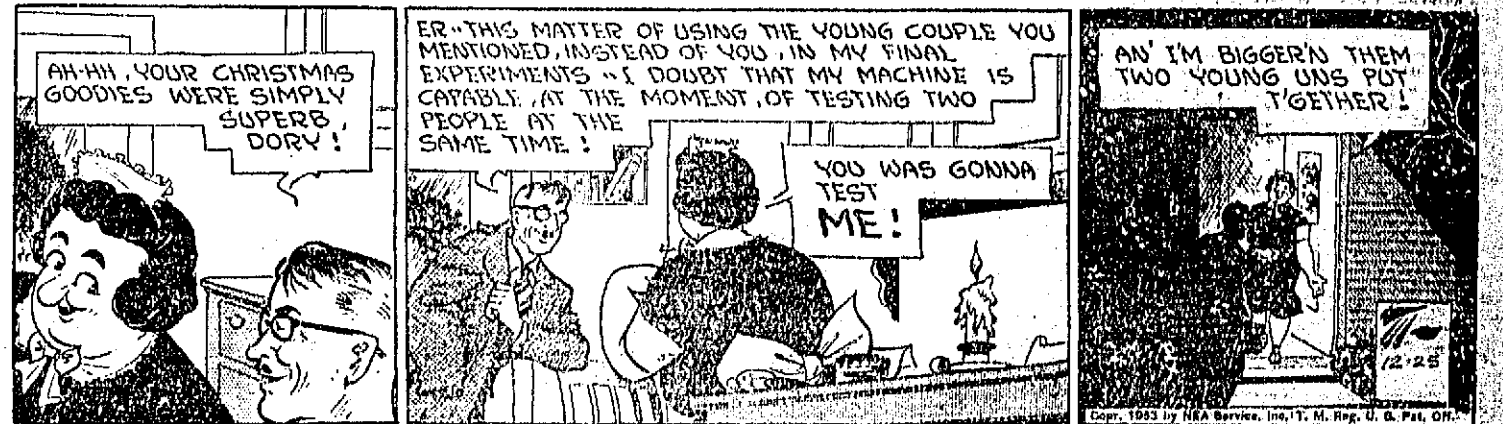
WASH TUBBS

By Leslia Turner

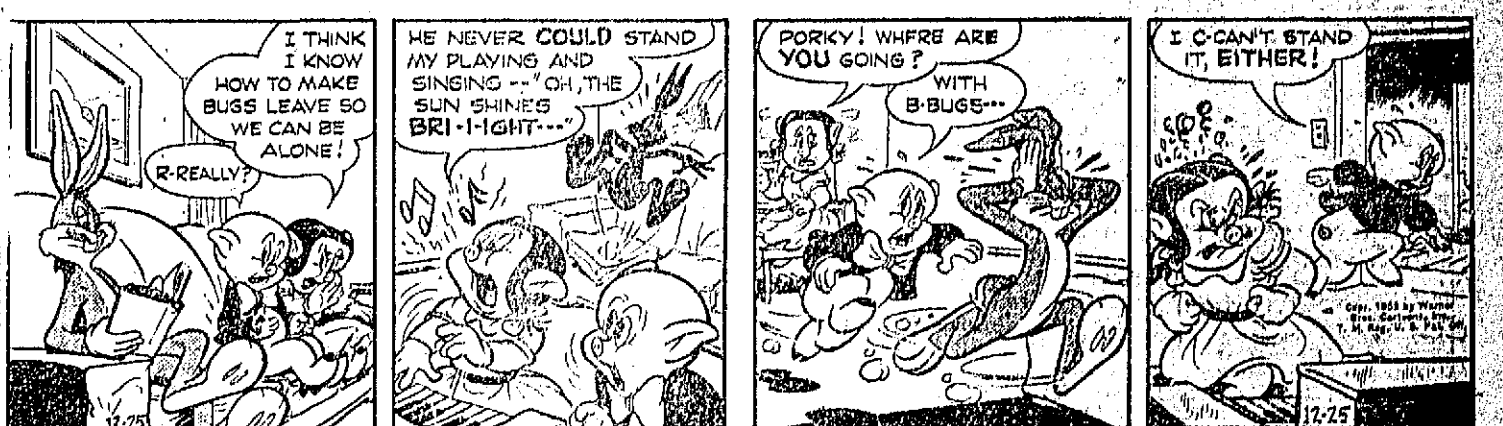


BOOTS AND HER BUDDIES

By Edgar Martin

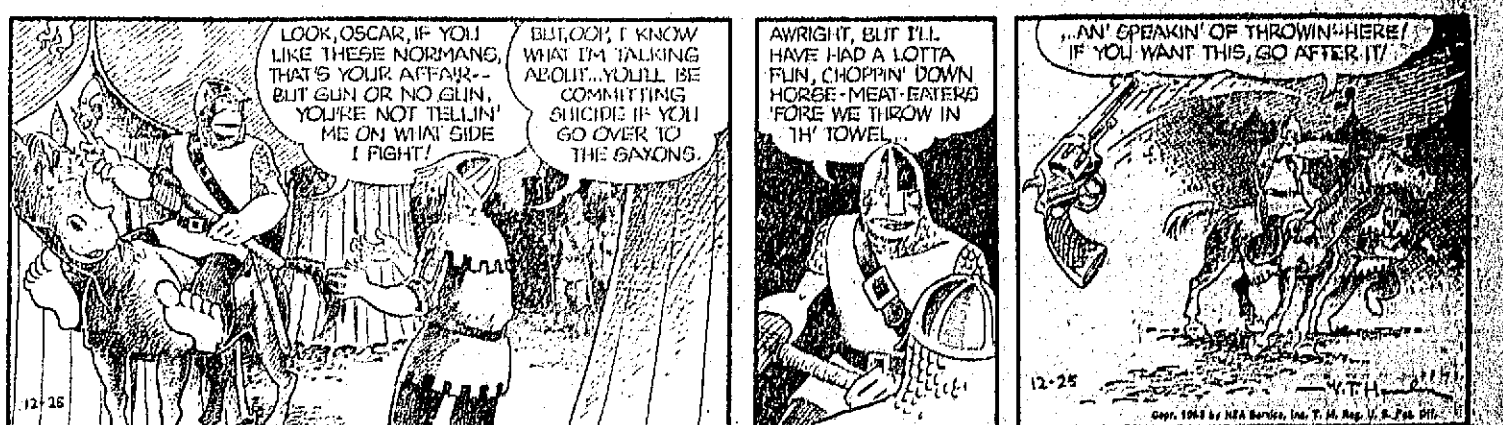


BUGS BUNNY



ALLEY OOP

By V. T. Hamlin



CHRIS WELKIN, Pianoteer

By Russ Winterbotham



THE STORY OF MARTHA WAYNE

By Wilson Scruggs



Nicknames

Answer to Previous Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1 Texas, the "Long State"
- 5 Missouri, the "Me State"
- 9 Virginia, the "Dominion State"
- 12 Gaelic
- 13 Nimbus
- 14 Massachusetts, the "Bay State"
- 15 Came in again
- 17 Sea eagle
- 18 Fish
- 19 Like a female deer
- 21 Strong box
- 23 Serbia's capital
- 24 America's Uncle
- 27 Vocalized
- 29 Flower container
- 32 Entertained
- 34 Thoroughfare
- 36 Live
- 37 Package
- 38 Make socks
- 39 Foreteller
- 41 Worm
- 42 Drinking vessel
- 44 Mine entrance
- 46 Dried grapes
- 49 Expunge
- 53 Girl's name
- 54 Airplane plunges
- 56 Number
- 57 Region
- 58 Daybreak (poet.)

DOWN

- 1 Indian weights
- 2 Migration
- 3 Bewildered
- 4 Fires
- 5 Proseum
- 6 Solidify
- 7 Vegetable fat
- 8 Germanic god
- 9 Bow
- 10 Bird
- 11 Unit of force
- 12 Tormented
- 16 Glandular organ
- 22 Withers
- 24 Scottish shirt
- 26 Prayer ending
- 28 An orchestra
- 29 Yawned
- 30 Prosecute
- 31 Lampreys
- 33 Position
- 35 Changed
- 40 Less complicated
- 43 Agave plants
- 45 Ornaments
- 46 Gracie
- 47 Arabian gulf
- 48 Nostril
- 50 River in England
- 51 Dry
- 52 Serf
- 53 Laboratory (ab.)

OUR BOARDING HOUSE

With Major Hoople



FUNNY BUSINESS

By Hershberger



"I had it built on—I knew Junior was going to get a saxophone for Christmas!"

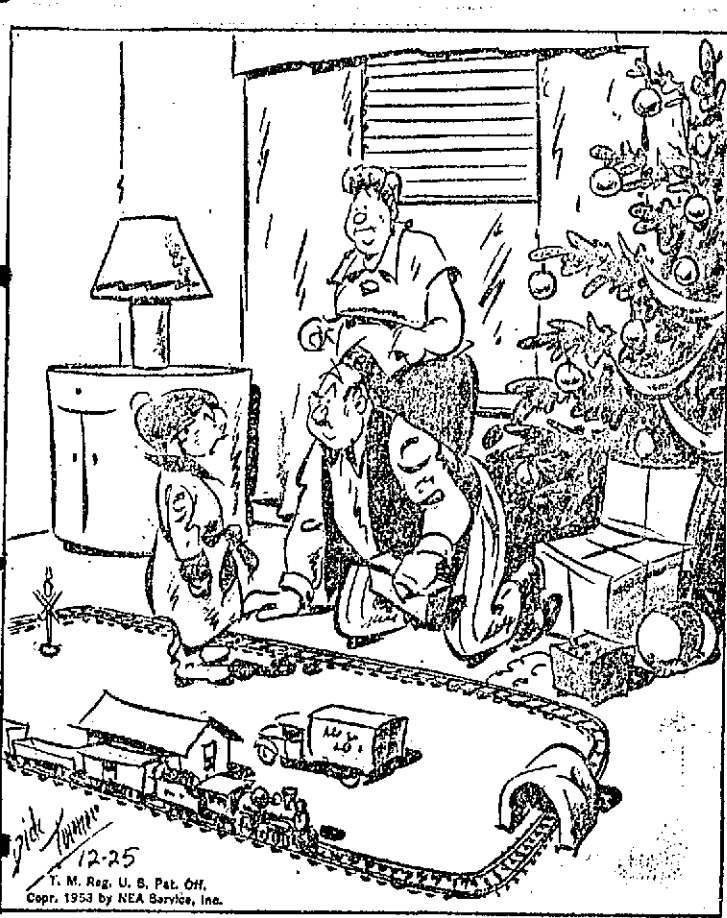
HENRY

By Carl Anderson



CARNIVAL

By Dick Turner



"What this railroad really needs is a good retirement plan!"

SIDE GLANCES

By Gulbreith



"It's grand to relax after all the Christmas buying! Next week we can get an early start on our Easter shopping!"

